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IDENTIFIERS *Corwith Wesley Community School District IA; *Lu Verne Community School District IA

ABSTRACT

Faced with declining enrollments and increased costs, Iowa's Corwith-Wesley and Lu Verne School Districts are seeking solution through utilizing provisions of the Iowa Code which allow for co-curricular sharing and dissolution of one school district with attachment to another. Beginning in 1980-81, the two small districts are sending grades 7-9 to the Lu Verne building and grades 10-12 to the Corwith building. There is total academic sharing, including band and chorus activities. The two boards of education meet jointly every other month. The only thing remaining to be put together is the co-curricular program. A comparison of staff costs between separate and shared programs shows a savings of \$137,381. The document includes relevant Iowa regulations, community-examined alternative solutions, a table of September 1979 K-12 enrollments (Lu Verne, 180 students; Corwith-Wesley, 308), and comparisons of budget growth for sharing and pupil transportation costs. Results of a Corwith survey show public sentiment for various alternatives. Also included are the enabling resolution and contract for the boards of education. Course offerings at the combined high school are provided with their 1981-82 enrollments. A list of witnesses and documents and the principal's statement for the hearing on co-curricular sharing conclude the document. (BRR)

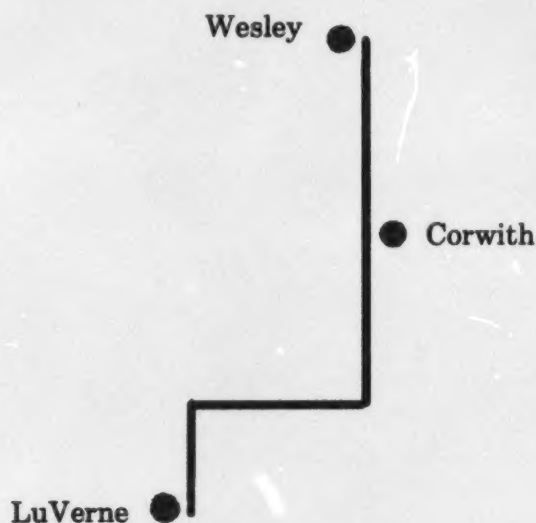
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Sharing To Learn Learning To Share



Corwith-Wesley and
LuVerne Community Schools

March 1982



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Take PRIDE
In Iowa
Schools

CLASSMATES, BUT NOT TEAMMATES

ARTICLE FROM THE FORT DODGE MESSENGER By Ron Norine

The student athletes from the Corwith-Wesley and LuVerne school districts are involved in one of the most unusual academic-athletic situations to be found in the state of Iowa.

They are classmates by day and opponents by night.

Take Randy Lenz and Steve Stahl, for example. Both are in the first-period accounting class together. And students, Carri Gourley and Karen McClellan are in the same sixth-period world history class. But Lenz and Gourley compete for the Corwith-Wesley basketball teams while McClellan and Stahl play for LuVerne.

Last year the schools were entirely separate entities. But faced with declining enrollments and increasing budget problems, the boards of Corwith-Wesley and LuVerne school districts entered into a one-year "total sharing" agreement which is the only one of its kind in Iowa, according to an official at the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) in Des Moines.

The two schools have temporarily joined forces and have become one for the 1980-81 school year--with the exception of the athletic programs, which are required to remain totally separate. All the high school students (98 from Corwith-Wesley and 55 from LuVerne) are taking classes in the Corwith building while the junior high students (83 from C-W and 38 from LuVerne) go to school at the LuVerne building.

It is the only "total sharing" program in operation throughout the state of Iowa, said Carl Miles, the director of field services and supervision for the DPI. Several other school boards contemplating the same move have dropped in here to study how the program has worked so far.

The athletes, like all the other students, attend many of the same classes, walk the same hallways and share the same lunch tables. But when the final bell sounds they won't be sharing the same gyms or coaches. The players become either the LuVerne Lions or the Corwith-Wesley Vikings. Three times this winter the basketball teams have faced each other as rival members of the North Star Conference.

What is it like to be a part of such an intra-school rivalry? The Messenger spent an afternoon talking to administrators, coaches and athletes here and in LuVerne to find the answer. We found a mixture of attitudes in some areas. But the feeling is near-unanimous that the sharing concept is working just dandy. High school Principal Dean Meier cited several instances of cooperation among the students, teachers and school boards--cooperation which goes above and beyond the call of duty.

Let's explore some of the attitudes of the C-W-L basketball coaches and players who have competed against each other twice during regular season play and once in the North Star Conference Tournament.

Sam Tvrdik, LuVerne coach, has several of his C-W 'opponents' in his high school business classes and admitted that he felt "very happy" but also "very guilty" after his team's wins over the Vikings. "I was glad we won but I didn't have the

same feeling I normally would have had," he said. "It was tempered by the fact that the kids I'd see in class wouldn't have that same feeling."

When each game was over, a remarkable spirit of diplomacy prevailed in school the next day. It was almost as though the games were never played. Every person interviewed--two administrators, five coaches and a dozen athletes--said there was not a word mentioned about the games on the day after. Not even any good-natured kidding between buddies from opposite teams. Tvrdik explained that instructions are standard operating procedure no matter who the opponent is. "I always preach respect for our opponents. But in these games, it was amplified by the fact that our opponents are closer and we have more ready access to them."

Starters Patty Olson and Paula Yeoman from the successful Corwith-Wesley girls' team admitted they had a tendency to ease up against their LuVerne classmates. Yeoman said the sharing program "has worked out real well. I've met a lot of new friends and they really supported us in the conference tournament."

Superintendent Sorensen said he doesn't know how long the two school boards will continue in the total sharing commitment. "Some people may say we're just trying to hang on to keep from consolidating. But the key with sharing is that it leaves you open to look at other options," he said. "And at the same time, sharing helps us to provide the students with greater opportunities."

In the years to come there may be many more students throughout Iowa who will be classmates by day and opponents by night. And with many 1-A schools on the brink of disbanding their football programs, sharing in athletic programs may be on the horizon. In which case strangers by day could become teammates by night.

SCHOOL LAWS OF IOWA

280.15 JOINT EMPLOYMENT AND SHARING

ANY TWO OR MORE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS MAY JOINTLY EMPLOY AND SHARE THE SERVICES OF ANY SCHOOL PERSONNEL, OR ACQUIRE AND SHARE THE USE OF CLASS-ROOMS, LABORATORIES, EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES. CLASSES MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STUDENTS IN THE MANNER PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSIDERED AS COMPLYING WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 275.1 RELATING TO THE MAINTENANCE OF TWELVE GRADES BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT.

(275.1 - ALL AREAS OF THE STATE SHALL BE IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS MAINTAINING TWELVE GRADES. IF ANY SCHOOL DISTRICT CEASES TO MAINTAIN TWELVE GRADES, IT SHALL REORGANIZE WITHIN SIX MONTHS OR THE STATE BOARD SHALL ATTACH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT NOT MAINTAINING TWELVE GRADES TO ANOTHER DISTRICT.) 1978

442.31 SUPPLEMENTARY WEIGHTING PLAN

IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS WHICH SEND THEIR RESIDENT PUPILS TO ANOTHER SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR CLASSES, WHICH JOINTLY EMPLOY AND SHARE THE SERVICES OF TEACHERS UNDER SECTION TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY POINT FIFTEEN (280.15) OF THE CODE, OR WHICH USE THE SERVICES OF A TEACHER EMPLOYED BY ANOTHER SCHOOL DISTRICT, A SUPPLEMENTARY WEIGHTING PLAN FOR DETERMINING ENROLLMENT IS ADOPTED AS FOLLOWS:

1. PUPILS IN A REGULAR CURRICULUM ATTENDING ALL THEIR CLASSES IN THE DISTRICT IN WHICH THEY RESIDE AND TAUGHT BY TEACHERS EMPLOYED BY THAT DISTRICT, ARE ASSIGNED A WEIGHTING OF ONE.
2. PUPILS ATTENDING CLASSES IN ANOTHER SCHOOL DISTRICT, ATTENDING CLASSES TAUGHT BY A TEACHER WHO IS EMPLOYED JOINTLY UNDER SECTION TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY POINT FIFTEEN (280.15) OF THE CODE, OR ATTENDING CLASSES TAUGHT BY A TEACHER WHO IS EMPLOYED BY ANOTHER SCHOOL DISTRICT, ARE ASSIGNED A WEIGHTING OF ONE PLUS ONE-TENTH TIMES THE PERCENT OF THE PUPIL'S SCHOOL DAY DURING WHICH THE PUPIL ATTENDS CLASSES IN ANOTHER DISTRICT, ATTENDS CLASSES TAUGHT BY A TEACHER WHO IS JOINTLY EMPLOYED UNDER SECTION TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY POINT FIFTEEN (280.15) OF THE CODE, OR ATTENDS CLASSES TAUGHT BY A TEACHER WHO IS EMPLOYED BY ANOTHER SCHOOL DISTRICT.

DISSOLUTION BILL - STATE OF IOWA

Section 1. DISSOLUTION COMMISSION

As an alternative to school district reorganization prescribed in this chapter, the board of directors of a school district may establish a school district dissolution commission to prepare a proposal of dissolution of the school district and attachment of all of the school district to one or more contiguous school districts.

The dissolution commission shall consist of seven members appointed by the board for a term of office ending either with a report to the board that no proposal can be approved or on the date of the election on the proposal.

The board of the school district shall certify to the area education agency board that a commission has been formed, names and addresses of commission members, and that the commission members represent the various geographic areas and socio-economic factors present in the district.

Section 2. MEETINGS

The commission shall request statements from contiguous school districts outlining each district's willingness to accept attachments of the affected school district to the contiguous districts and what conditions, if any, the contiguous school district recommends. The commission shall meet with boards of contiguous school districts and with residents of the affected school district to the extent possible in drawing up the dissolution proposal.

Section 3. DISSOLUTION PROPOSAL

The commission shall send a copy of its dissolution proposal or shall inform the board that it cannot agree upon a dissolution proposal not later than one year following the date of the organizational meeting of the commission.

Section 4. HEARING

Within ten days following the filing of the dissolution proposal with the board, the board shall fix a date for a hearing on the proposal. A person residing or owning land in the school district may present evidence and arguments at the hearing.

Section 5. ELECTION

The board of the school district shall call a special election. The proposition submitted to the voters residing in the school district at the special election shall describe each separate area to be attached to a contiguous school district and shall name the school district to which it will be attached.

The proposition shall be adopted if sixty percent of the electors voting on the proposition approve its adoption.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

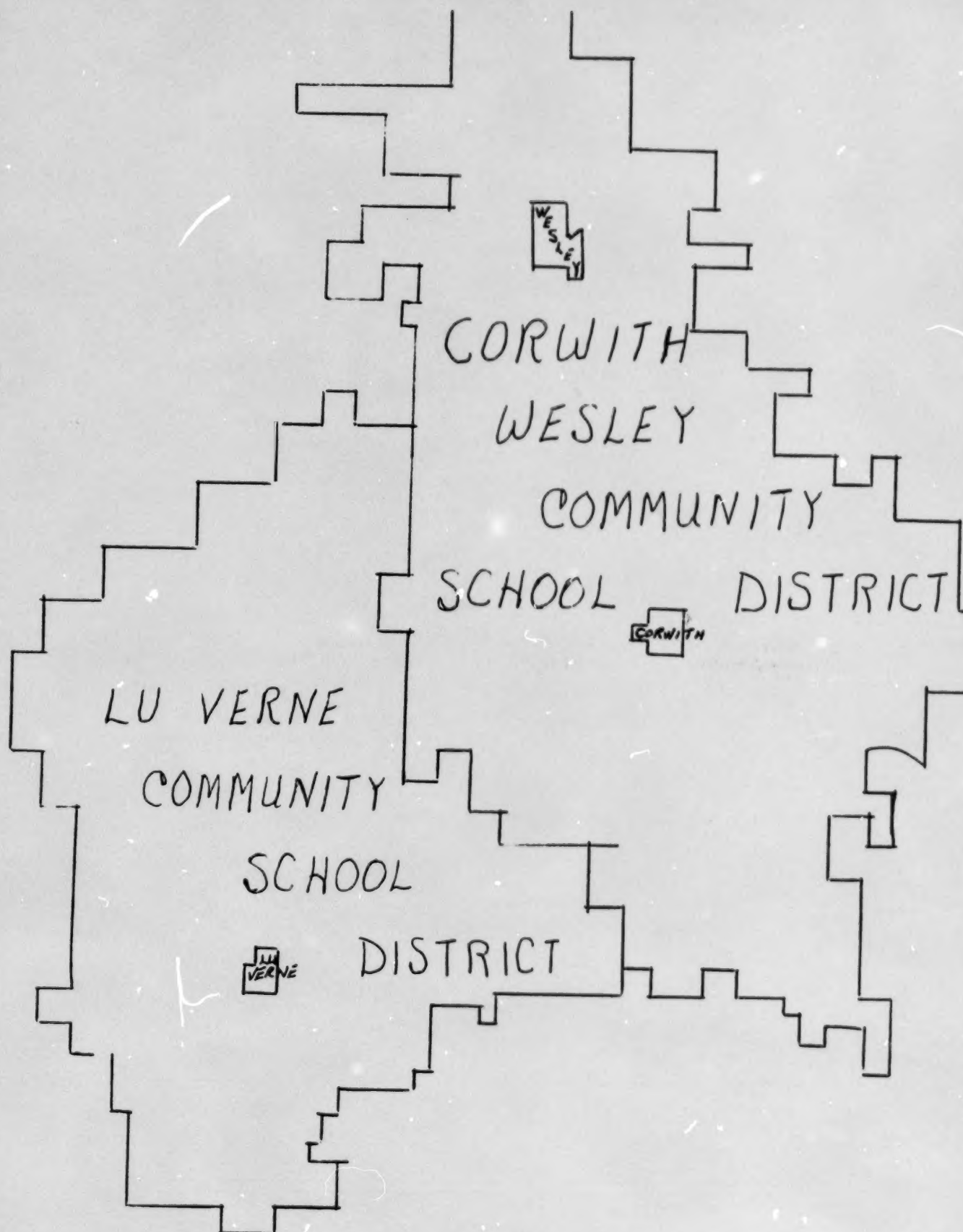
Community hearings were held to gain insight into the feelings of community members about the different organizational options available to the Corwith-Wesley Community School District for the 1980-81 school year. Examples as follows:

- _____ a. All C-W students K-12 in the Corwith Building
- _____ b. Shared teachers & students --
 - K-6 C-W students - Wesley Building
 - K-6 LuVerne students - LuVerne Building
 - 7-9 C-W and LuVerne students - LuVerne Building
 - 10-12 C-W and LuVerne students - Corwith Building
- _____ c. Reorganization:
 - LuVerne
 - Britt
 - Algona
 - Boone Valley - LuVerne
 - Kanawha
- _____ d. Remain K-6 at Wesley and 7-12 at Corwith (increase the 5% enrichment tax to 10%)
- _____ e. Decrease spending - cut programs and stay K-6 in Wesley and 7-12 in Corwith
- _____ f. Dissolve the district
- _____ g. Other choice

ENROLLMENT (Sept. 1979)

<u>Grade</u>	<u>LuVerne</u>	<u>Corwith-Wesley</u>	<u>Total</u>
K	12	23	35
1	11	13	24
2	14	11	25
3	15	23	38
4	15	20	35
5	5	11	16
6	13	32	45
7	12	18	30
8	14	32	46
9	18	25	43
10	18	36	54
11	19	35	54
12	<u>14</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>43</u>
TOTAL	180	308	488

Percent of total students = 36.9 (LuVerne) 63.1 (C-W)
Percent of 7-12 students = 35.2 (LuVerne) 64.8 (C-W)
Percent of 7-9 students = 37.0 (LuVerne) 63.0 (C-W)
Percent of 10-12 students = 33.8 (LuVerne) 66.2 (C-W)



A hand-drawn map showing two school districts. The top district is labeled 'CORWITH WESLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT' and contains a small square icon labeled 'WESLEY'. The bottom district is labeled 'LU VERNE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT' and contains a small square icon labeled 'LU VERNE'. The districts are separated by a jagged, stepped line. The entire map is enclosed in a larger, irregular stepped boundary.

WESLEY

CORWITH
WESLEY
COMMUNITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

CORWITH

LU VERNE
COMMUNITY

SCHOOL

LU
VERNE

DISTRICT

BUDGET GROWTH FOR SHARING

A. Corwith-Wesley: 83 students
 x .1 weighting factor
 8.3 student additional count
 x 2006 per pupil cost for 1980-81
 \$ 16,650 additional dollars available

B. LuVerne: 55 students
x .1 weighting factor
5.5 student additional count
x 2073 per pupil cost for 1980-81
\$ 11,401 additional dollars available

Total additional dollars available = \$ 28,051

Pupil Transportation Costs

1. Number of miles from LuVerne School to
Corwith-Wesley School in Corwith = 14 miles
2. Number of miles to exchange of drivers = 7 miles
3. Number of buses required to transport students = 2 buses from each district
4. Each bus will be driven 28 miles each day
5. Total miles = 28 miles x 4 x 179 days = 20,048 miles
6. 20,048 miles x 80¢ per mile = \$ 16,038

RESULTS OF SURVEY IN CORWITH (One segment of Community)

A. All C-W students K-12 in the Corwith Building:

Rating	No. of votes
1	= 28
2	= 32
3	= 23
4	= 4
5	= 3
6	= 0

B. Shared teachers & students:

Rating	No. of votes
1	= 25
2	= 20
3	= 14
4	= 18
5	= 3
6	= 0

C. Reorganization:

LuVerne		Britt		Algona	
Rating	No. votes	Rating	No. votes	Rating	No. votes
1	= 0	1	= 2	1	= 2
2	= 1	2	= 2	2	= 0
3	= 1	3	= 3	3	= 2
4	= 4	4	= 3	4	= 0
5	= 12	5	= 5	5	= 0
6	= 1	6	= 3	6	= 0
		7	= 1		

Boone Valley--Luverne

Rating	No. votes
1	= 5
2	= 5
3	= 4
4	= 1
5	= 1
6	= 0

Kanawha

Rating	No. votes
1	= 0
2	= 0
3	= 0
4	= 0
5	= 0
6	= 1

D. Remain K-6 at Wesley and 7-12 at Corwith (increase 5% enrichment tax to 10%):

Rating	No. of votes
1	= 25
2	= 17
3	= 15
4	= 14
5	= 6
6	= 2

E. Decrease spending, cut programs, stay K-6 in Wesley, 7-12 in Corwith:

Rating	No. of votes
1	= 17
2	= 11
3	= 19
4	= 10
5	= 11
6	= 6

F. Dissolve the district:

Rating	No. of votes
1	= 1
2	= 5
3	= 0
4	= 6
5	= 9
6	= 26

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Corwith-Wesley Community School District and LuVerne Community School District, recognize the inherent difficulties of successfully maintaining individual K-12 school programs in the face of small and declining enrollments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that to help alleviate the problems above referenced, the parties hereto intend to cooperate in the employment of personnel for the transportation and education of students of the districts as authorized by Iowa Code sections, 28E.12 and 280.15.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the parties recognize that they are establishing a unique and complex relationship with another governmental entity which can only effectuate the purposes for which it is intended, if the problems which may surely arise are worked out with a spirit of compromise and with the purposes above stated in mind.

WHEREFORE, the parties, individually and jointly approve the contract appended hereto as the embodiment of their agreement.

PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 1980.

PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

SECRETARY

CONTRACT

For the 1980-81 school year, the parties hereto, the Corwith-Wesley Community School District and the LuVerne Community School District, agree to the following arrangement as authorized by Iowa Code Sections 28E.12 and 280.15:

1. Resident regular program students in grades 10 through 12 of the LuVerne Community School District will attend the Corwith-Wesley Community School District for the entirety of the regular instructional day. Resident regular program students in grades 7 through 9 of the Corwith-Wesley Community School District will attend the LuVerne Community School District for the entirety of the regular instructional day.
2. Certain teachers, i.e. Guidance Counselor, Home Economics teacher, Industrial Arts Teacher, Art teacher, Vocational Agriculture teacher and Foreign Language teacher will be shared between the LuVerne Community School District and the Corwith-Wesley Community School District. The Corwith-Wesley Community School District assumes the responsibility for being the designated employing agency for said teachers. The LuVerne Community School District shall reimburse the Corwith-Wesley Community School District for the prorated costs inclusive of salary, FICA, IPERS, insurances and any and all other costs necessitated by compliance with the Corwith-Wesley Community School District master negotiated agreement or by law. Prorated percentages to be assumed by the LuVerne Community School District subject to mutual modification to reflect actual time expended in the respective districts, include: Guidance (40%), Home Economics (40%), Industrial Arts (40%), Art (40%), Vo-ag (40%), and Foreign Language (40%). Payments according to said prorations will be due on November 10, 1980, February 10, 1981, and June 10, 1981.
3. In recognition of the mutual benefit accorded to both districts and in recognition of the generally recognized concept that instructional costs are higher at the senior high school level as opposed to lower levels and in recognition of the impossibility of calculating exact instructional costs, the parties hereto agree to individually and mutually waive tuition requests and reimbursements. Contractual consideration entailed in regular program instructional costs is therefore deemed equivalent.

4. Two buses of students will be initiated from each district daily and will meet at a designated rendezvous where drivers will switch vehicles to continue the route to the opposite school location. The process will be reversed in the afternoon returning the students and vehicles to their respective home locations. Drivers designated for these routes will be subject to approval by the sharing district. Drivers and vehicles must comply with all laws and standards applicable to school pupil transportation. Costs entailed in the transportation component of this sharing contract will be deemed equivalent and reimbursement therefore mutually waived.
5. Special education instruction for individuals in grade levels affected by this sharing agreement will be handled through separate contractual procedures.
6. This agreement will be construed to effectuate the purposes of delivery of quality educational services to pupils of the respective districts and to effectuate financial savings for the respective districts. To these ends, this agreement may be mutually modified by action of the respective Boards of Directors of the Corwith-Wesley Community School District and the LuVerne Community School District.

CORWITH-WESLEY COMMUNITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

LuVERNE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

BY: _____
Board President

BY: _____
Board President

STAFFING

A. Cost Savings

1. 1979-80 Separate Programs (7-12)

a. Corwith-Wesley = 15.64 teachers

b. LuVerne = 11.60 teachers

Total = 26.24

2. 1981-82 Shared Programs (7-12)

a. Corwith-Wesley = 10.10 teachers

b. LuVerne = 7.20 teachers

Total = 17.30

Total Staff Reduction = 8.94

Average Salary \$15,367 x 8.94 = \$ 137,381

Because of cost savings, the district could do the following:

1. All instructors were able to teach in major fields.
2. Social Science, Communication Skills, Mathematics and Science instructors taught within a three year grade span (7-9 (10-12).
3. Maintain and expand curricular programs with instructors available.

B. Some Problem Areas

1. Instrumental Music -- Marching Band, Pep Bands, Homecomings
2. Co-curricular staffing for both schools with less instructors
3. Separate proms, senior class trips, class meetings, student council meetings, fund raising activities
4. Travel

A general positive staff response made entry into the shared program possible during the 1980-81 school year.

1981-82 COURSE OFFERINGS AT CORWITH-WESLEY & LUVERNE HIGH SCHOOL -- ENROLLMENTS

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>TOTAL ENROLLMENT</u>	<u>C-W</u>	<u>LV</u>
Horticulture	10	5	5
Algebra I	18	14	4
Band	19	18	1
Chorus	48	32	16
Social Studies III	43	25	18
Accounting	31	16	15
Chemistry	20	15	5
Geometry	24	13	11
Typing I	50	30	20
Typing III	5	3	2
Government	49	32	17
Foreign Lang. (Span. & Ger.)	34	21	13
Developmental Reading	27	18	9
Computer I?	4	2	2
Office Practice	13	10	3
English III	39	23	16
World History	45	32	13
Biology	45	32	13
Shorthand I	5	4	1
Advanced Math	10	9	1
Vo-Ag. III	15	11	4
Journalism	11	4	7
Crafts	15	10	5
Physics	8	7	1
English II/Speech	45	32	13
Metals	6	1	5
Art I	4	1	3
Algebra II	22	11	11
Health	19	16	3
Computer I	10	8	2
Singles Living	11	4	7
Vo-Ag. I	11	7	4
Woods	19	12	7
World Literature	5	2	3
Beginning Art	16	14	2
Organic Chemistry	6	6	0
Advanced Art	11	9	2
Construction	13	9	4
Drama	7	6	1
Foods I	6	5	1
Vo-Ag. II	7	4	3
Health	9	8	1
Business Law	24	17	7
Consumer Math	19	12	7
Ind. Arts (Honors)	16	9	7
Home Ec (Honors)	2	0	2
Family Living	6	5	1
Child Development	15	10	5
Foods II	5	6	0
Human Physiology	20	15	5
Typing II	18	10	8
Current Events	14	13	1

LIST OF WITNESSES AND DOCUMENTS EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED
IN TEACHER TERMINATION HEARING INVOLVING TEACHERS REDUCED
AND THE CORWITH-WESLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Witnesses: Administrators

Documents:

1. Sharing agreement with LuVerne Community School District.
2. Board minutes establishing positions for 1980-81.
3. DPI historical enrollment and projections.
4. Controlled budget and analysis.
5. Class size comparisons.
6. Board policies establishing evaluation criteria.
7. Master contract 1979-80.
8. Notice of recommendation to terminate to the teachers involved.
9. Proof of service.
10. Notice to Board of recommendation to terminate.
11. Request for private hearing.
12. Notice of time, place and date of private hearing.
13. Superintendent's list of witnesses and documents.
14. Teacher's list of witnesses and documents.
15. 1979-80 upper elementary evaluations.
16. Other teacher evaluations where needed.

CO-CURRICULAR SHARING RULE - STATE OF IOWA

A. OVERVIEW

The purpose of this proposed rule is to benefit students by making available to them interscholastic activities not offered by their own schools. Cooperation under this proposed rule will be a matter of local control. No school or district will be forced to participate.

B. MAJOR PROVISIONS

- a. Written agreement or formally adopted policy is required.
- b. All terms and conditions must be in writing.
- c. Districts or schools must be contiguous.
- d. Academic sharing is required.
- e. All interscholastic activities not available to students must be included.
- f. Agreements must be for at least two years.
- g. Students must meet eligibility requirements.
- h. Agreements must be filed with governing organizations by December 31.
- i. Competition may be under the name of the host school only.
- j. Activity organizations may void agreements.
- k. Effective dates: July 1, 1983, through June 30, 1986.

C. PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this rule to allow individual students participation in interscholastic competition in activities not available to them in the schools which they attend, through local policy or arrangements made between the governing boards of the schools involved, so long as the interscholastic activities of other schools are not substantially prejudiced. Substantial prejudice shall include, but not necessarily be limited to situations where a cooperative effort may result in an unfair domination of an activity, or substantial disruption of activity classifications and management. In the event an activity organization determines, after investigation, that an agreement between schools developed under the terms of this subrule results in substantial prejudice to other schools engaged in the activity, or the terms of the agreement are not in conformity with the purpose and terms of this rule, the activity organization may give timely notice to the schools involved that the local policy or the agreement between them is null and void for the purposes of this rule, insofar as cooperative student participation is concerned with a particular activity. Any such determinations are appealable to the State Board of Public Instruction under the terms 670-9.17. For notice to be timely, it must be given at least forty-five days prior to the beginning of the activity season.

This rule shall become effective on July 1, 1983 and shall be rescinded on June 30, 1986.

This rule is intended to implement Section 280.13, The Code.

*"Sharing To Learn
Learning To Share"*

CORWITH-WESLEY AND LUVERNE HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING

Corwith, Iowa 50430

Phone (515) 583-2304

From the Office of the Principal:

MARCH 11, 1982

HEARING ON CO-CURRICULAR SHARING

DES MOINES, IOWA

SHARING PROGRAM AT CORWITH-WESLEY AND LUVERNE: All 7-8-9 grade students attend their classes at the LuVerne building ---- All 10-11-12 grade students attend their classes at the Corwith building. There is total academic sharing, including band and chorus activities. The two Boards of Education meet jointly every other month. The only thing remaining to be put together is the co-curricular program.

HOW IS SHARING VIEWED?? Our view is that sharing is not necessarily a final product. It may be the first step toward reorganization.....It may be a step toward ultimate dissolution.....We don't know for sure what the future holds. We do know that both sides are involved in this VOLUNTARILY and that helps to keep an atmosphere of good will surrounding all of our meetings and decisions.

JOINT BOARD MEETINGS: Our districts face problems just like everyone else. We have declining student populations.....we face dollar shortages.....Sharing is not a panacea for all the ills of education. The two Boards of Education have approached sharing as a means of providing a quality educational program for students from both districts. At the Joint Meetings, the two Boards have already laid the groundwork for the co-curricular sharing by resolving some of the social-educational problems first. It has been agreed to hold a joint Junior-Senior Prom starting this year at alternate sites.....It has been agreed to publish a joint school newspaper.....It has been agreed to publish a joint school Annual.....It has been agreed to combine the two class treasuries and elect joint officers for a combined class (sophomore, junior, senior).....It has been agreed to establish a joint Student Council for all school activities.....The list goes on and on.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT: It would have been quite an experience for outsiders to have been able to attend the two basketball games played between the boys' and girls' varsity teams from C-W and LuVerne. Never would you have seen such a relaxed and cordial audience of spectators.....watching students who attend all their classes together, but wear different uniforms, competing against each other.

Concerts, plays, and other non-athletic activities have been well attended by people from both districts. The atmosphere is harmonious.

NUMBERS PROBLEMS: We have numbers problems.....not in the sense of looking for 400-more students to add to the 800- we already have to build a dynasty!!! We are looking at numbers in the sense of keeping programs alive.....in the sense of maintaining an opportunity for young people to be involved in programs that will help them to grow and mature. The people who speak of "recruiting" or of "building dynasties" do place the welfare of our students in jeopardy!! We want to be able to field a football team, not build a State Championship dynasty! We are not alone in this.....Woden-Crystal Lake has dropped football.....Sentral of Fention dropped girls' basketball.....Morning Sun dropped boys' basketball.....Goldfield did not have a junior high girls' basketball team this year.....Klemme is faced with going to 9-man football to avoid dropping the sport.....Boone Valley is looking at 9-man junior high football next year. All across the state, conferences are looking to realignment because of these problems.....the Corn Belt, the River Valley, the State Line, the North Star, the Big Marsh-----Most of these are in the talking stage right now, but when the movement starts it will be a domino-like effect. Scheduling is becoming very difficult. As an Athletic Director, how far ahead can we schedule games??? How far ahead can we contract officials???

WHY NOW??? Our districts have laid the groundwork. We have gone above and beyond any other districts in the state in providing a total sharing environment. We have shown that it can work so long as people are willing to make it work. The results of the student body questionnaire show the feelings of the students in relation to sharing. THE PREVAILING ATTITUDE IS ONE OF ASKING TO SHARE THOSE ACTIVITIES WHICH EITHER FINDS DIFFICULT OR IMPOSSIBLE TO SUPPORT ALONG. The students have done a very good job of reflecting the concept of remaining separate where there are sufficient numbers to do so. I would privately suggest to you that it will not take more than one year of combining some activities before the students will decide they want all activities combined. When you examine the numbers that have shifted on the topic of classroom sharing in just one year..... it is not beyond imagination to see a similar shift once co-curricular sharing is allowed. AGAIN, THE KEY IS THAT THIS IS A VOLUNTARY THING! The options remain open for the future.....People are not being forced against their will.

Our students have watched the newspapers closely this year. They have seen the estimates that 1982-83 would be the year that sharing would be allowed.....They have seen the estimate change to 1983-84.....They feel the concern that it may not be allowed at all. If the air is let out of the balloon at this time, the results may very well be to negate all the work that has been done the past two years. These youngsters have had to come to grips with situations that have not been faced by students in any other schools in the state. We have had posters reading "Go Vikings" and "Go Lions" on our walls this year.....No one has defaced them!! Homecoming decorations for both schools were posted and treated with respect. How many schools in the state could have that happen?? Would you like to post "Webster City" signs in the Humboldt school?? How about "East Waterloo" signs in the "West Waterloo" building?? This is an example of learning to get along...learning to compromise...learning to share. We think it has been a valuable experience.

Now we need your help. We have programs in danger of being lost. Football is in serious straits. The addition of LuVerne students is not going to make C-W-L a football power, but it would give us enough upperclassmen so that 120-pound freshmen would not be thrown into games against 190-pound seniors!!.....or, the other option of dropping the program. LuVerne students do not have football or track.....given sharing they could have the opportunity. Our band, chorus, and speech groups do not participate in state large group contests because we would

have to tell our LuVerne students, "Sorry, but you can't go with us." We choose to stay out of those contests rather than leave them home after they have been involved in those programs on a day-to-day basis.

Critics of sharing look for ways to prostitute its values.....We look to sharing as a way of helping quality educational opportunities survive. Critics speak of all the bad things that might happen.....We look to the good things that already have happened! Critics wring their hands and speak of dreadful problems.....We ask for creative leadership to deal with those problems if and when they arise! If we truly believe in the leadership and wisdom of our Boards of Education and our School Administrators, how can we then say that these people should not be able to make decisions concerning this issue?? If we truly want local control, how can we oppose this? If we truly believe in providing quality educational opportunities for all of our students, how can we oppose this? We need co-curricular sharing.....and we need it for the 1982-83 school year.

Leroy A. Powell,
Principal and Athletic Director
Corwith-Wesley High School

RESULTS OF CORWITH-WESLEY AND LUVERNE STUDENT BODY
QUESTIONNAIRE ON CO-CURRICULAR SHARING - MARCH 1982

ACTIVITY:	COR-WES.		LUVERNE		TOTAL	
	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
FOOTBALL	69	4	37	2	106	6
BOYS' BASKETBALL	29	44	10	29	39	73
BOYS' TRACK	59	14	33	6	92	20
BOYS' GOLF	33	40	17	22	50	62
BASEBALL	37	36	32	7	69	43
VOLLEYBALL	24	49	11	28	35	77
GIRLS' BASKETBALL	22	51	12	27	34	78
GIRLS' TRACK	52	21	32	7	84	28
GIRLS' GOLF	38	35	18	21	56	56
SOFTBALL	23	50	13	26	36	76

RESULTS OF CORWITH-WESLEY AND LUVERNE STUDENT BODY
QUESTIONNAIRE ON ACADEMIC SHARING

1980	CORWITH-WESLEY	LUVERNE	TOTAL
Strongly Opposed	15	11	26
Somewhat Opposed	22	11	33
Don't Care Either Way	21	8	29
Somewhat Favorable	10	9	19
Strongly Favorable	5	0	5
<u>MARCH 1982</u>			
Strongly Opposed	4	1	5
Somewhat Opposed	11	5	16
Don't Care Either Way	14	9	23
Somewhat Favorable	18	15	33
Strongly Favorable	26	9	35